

**SONGS OF SAIGON**

(Songs that Pacify)

First Edition

Recommendations for Additions Greatly Appreciated.

## ALREEVADERCHER SAIGON

Alreevadercher, Saigon

We hope you win your war

I'm looking for a job in Bangkok,

I'm looking for a job in Hong Kong,

I'm looking for a sinecure in Singapore.

The Viet Cong steal our weapons.

The Viet Cong hold them tight.

Now they're raiding our strategic hamlets

Now they're raiding our strategic hamlets

Wonder where the Bao An and the Dan Ve are tonight.

The Bao An steal our chickens

The Dan Ve steal our rice

And the Hamlet Chief is selling bulgar

With the GVN acting so vulgar

Is it any wonder that the VC seem so nice.

Where are the Special Forces

They're not on our frontier

They are beating up the nuns and bonzes

They are beating up the nuns and bonzes

That's the reason for the shooting that you can hear!

They send us lots of Colonels

With chickens on their necks

They are working in coordination

They are working in coordination

They are making plans to win the war on top of the Rex.

Alreevadercher, Saigon

We hope you win your war

I'm looking for a job in Bangkok,

I'm looking for a job in Hong Kong,

I'm looking for a sinecure in Singapore.

## THE LONGEST YEAR

There are boys of Special Forces  
There are lads from USOM too  
And the guys who fly the choppers -  
And of course there's me and you.

Refrain: . . .      The longest year, the longest year  
                              You know damn well was spent right here,  
                              The longest year, the longest time  
                              That I have ever spent!

It's gone on a whole lot longer  
Than we thought in '62  
We'd be home a whole lot sooner  
If it weren't for Madame Nhu.

Refrain: . . .

We were working in liaison,  
Told them everything we do,  
And they put it in the papers  
Said that we had planned a coup.

Refrain: . . .

If they weren't out burning Buddhists  
Or scaling pagoda walls  
They were finding ways to screw us  
'Cause they had us by the neck.

Refrain: . . .

If you ever come to Saigon,  
Follow my instructions, kid -  
Buy a ticket on to Bangkok,  
You'll be very glad you did!

Refrain: . . .      The longest year, the longest year  
                              Was spent in Viet Nam right here  
                              The longest year, the longest time  
                              That I have ever spent!

## WE ARE WINNING

(Tune: Rock of Ages)

We are winning, this we know  
General Harkins tells us so.  
Though in the Delta things are tough  
And in the highlands very rough,  
But the VC soon will go,  
Mr. Cabot tells us so.  
If you doubt them, who are you  
McNamara says so too.

(Tune: Landlord Fill the Flowing Bowl)

Landlord fill that nuoc mam bowl  
And splash it on my dishee  
Landlord fill that nuoc mam bowl  
And splash it on my dishee  
For tonight we'll dysentary be  
For tonight we'll dysentary be  
For tonight we'll dysentary be  
Tomorrow we'll smell fishy.

(Tune: Sioux City Sue)

I meet a gal in old Saigon  
I asked her what was new  
She said I think this morning  
They held another coup  
I don't know who they couped this time  
I surely don't know why  
The only thing I know for sure  
We had a little coup!

## GHOST ADVISORS BY AND BY

Some Yarks went out advising  
Down in Southern Vietnam,  
But the people they advised  
Didn't give a good Goddam!  
The president and his family  
Were sweating out a coup,  
And they blamed the whole "Schamozzle"  
On the likes of me and you!

-- 1st Chorus --

Yipee aye yea! Yipee aye yea!  
Ghost advisors by and by!

Some Buddhists did a "slow burn"  
Up in Hue and in Saigon,  
And you couldn't "watch the birdies,"  
Without dodging plastic bombs.  
The students, they got angry ---  
The government closed the schools  
And the "Times of Vietnam"  
Called the U. S. a bunch of fools!

-- Chorus --

These advisors were notorious  
For countering insurgency.  
They collected "Lessons Learned"  
For the Chief of "QUO VAN MY."  
They gathered tons of data,  
From the field in Vietnam  
(But down in Venezuela,  
It won't be worth a damn!).

-- Chorus --

They worked for COMUSMACV  
And for the Chief of MAAG,  
Who told Bob McNamara  
That the war was "in the bag,"  
That the Viet Cong were beaten  
In this brave "Diem-ocracy"  
(They didn't tell the insurgents:  
The omnipotent VCs!).

-- Chorus --

Yes, in the steaming jungles  
And the plains of mud and rice,  
Infested with mosquitoes,  
Viet Cong and body lice,  
There went the good advisors  
And some "Greenie Beanies too,  
To save the little country  
For the likes of Madame NHU!

-- Chorus --

They advised the Civil Guard  
And the valliant SDC  
They advised the Vietnamese  
In the land, air and sea  
And when the fights were over  
When the "body-count" was in  
Our side lost a hundred  
And the VCs only ten!

-- Chorus --

They built Strategic Hamlets  
And they dispensed USOM aid.  
They convinced the Montagnards  
That they really had it made!  
They defoliated jungles,  
And herbicided rice,  
As long as Mr. Ambassador  
Could afford the going price!

-- Chorus --

Then they headed for the airfield,  
Out at good old TAN SON NHUT;  
With boarding passes in their hands  
And CIBs to boot!

"Little soldiers of misfortune, "  
And, "Tools of the CIA, "  
They waited for jet planes  
To touch that broad runway!

-- Chorus --

Now buddy, listen to them  
And hear what they've got to say  
They're gonna board that aircraft  
So don't get in their way  
They'll "ZAP" you with their cross-bows  
And their home-made rifles too  
Cause there ain't seats enough on that craft  
For the likes of me and you.

-- Final Chorus --

Yipee-aye-yeah! Yipee-aye-yeah!  
Ghost advisors by and by!

## THE YELLOW ROSE OF SAIGON

She's the Yellow Rose of Saigon  
And I think she banned the twist  
But she's a real cute little dolly  
She's one I think I've missed  
You can talk about the President  
And about his brother Nhu  
But don't talk about my Yellow Rose  
If you know what's good for you.

She's angry at the Buddhists  
And she hates the New York Times  
Because they always rib her  
And accuse her of awful crimes  
What's a little joke about cook-outs  
Or imported gasoline  
Why, that's mostly exaggeration  
She's really not that mean.

Yes my Little Rose of Saigon  
Is just a poor little refugee  
Why she fled from Ho and Hanoi  
To make jobs for you and me  
She's snowed General Maxwell Taylor  
And Ambassador Nolting too  
Got bright green light from JFK  
And three billion dollars too.

So my Yellow Rose of Saigon  
Stays off of Tu Do street  
She doesn't go much for loving  
But at intrigue can't be beat  
I look for many changes  
When she meets with Mr. Lodge  
Cause it's said that he's a sucker  
For eastern camouflage

Yes my Little Rose of Saigon  
Is a veteran through and through  
She's careful with her money  
In case there is a Coup  
She's got to salvage something  
From this political enterprise  
Before the VC lose their fight  
And America gets wise.



Now my Yellow Rose of Saigon  
Has left for the USA  
To be a UN observer  
In the good old fashion way  
You can talk about the President  
And about her husband Nhu  
But don't talk about my Yellow Rose  
If you know what's good for you.

### STRATEGIC HAMLET SONG

Give me wire, lots of wire, under starry skies above,  
please fence me in.  
Wrap it round, wrap it round, wrap it all the way around,  
please fence me in.  
I've got the house and the fields, and the pump protected,  
felt secure till the CG defected!  
Give me more aid and I'll feel protected,  
please fence me in!  
Give me lemonade, bandaids, USOM aid, every thing U. S. made.  
I asked for fertilizer, pig pens, bulgar wheat, and  
haven't got it yet.  
So I'll bark at the moon until they burn my fences.  
Stay in my hamlet till I lose my senses.  
Bury my shotgun cause I've got no defences,  
please fence me in!

## THE STREETS OF SAIGON

As I walked down the Streets of Saigon  
As I walked down Le Loi one day  
I spied an ex-president all dressed in white linen  
All wrapped in white linen and cold as the clay.

"I can see by your uniform that you're an advisor."  
These words he said as I slowly walked by.  
"Come sit down beside me and hear my sad story,  
I'm shot in the head and I'm sure to die.

"It was once I ruled widely, once I ruled strongly  
And loved my sister or so they did say  
But I kept my brother and so ruled wrongly  
For those Buddhists gone burning I know I must pay.

"Have sixteen dancers to carry my coffin  
Have the girls down at the Tu Do sing a love song  
Take me down Xa Loi, there lay the sod over me  
Now that USIS has scorned me  
I know I've done wrong.

"Oh blow the piper slowly and beat the drum loudly  
Play a slow twist as you carry my pall  
Put Dalat roses all over my coffin  
To soften the tears of the press as they fall."

## Those Viet Cong Are Breaking Up That Old Gang of Mine

Not a soul down in the hamlet,  
That's a pretty certain sign,  
Those Viet Cong are breaking up that old gang of mine.

All the boys are selling weapons,  
Ho's piastres do just fine,  
Those Viet Cong are breaking up that old gang of mine.

There goes Nhu, there goes Diem,  
They were not so tame!  
There goes Don, there goes Dinh,  
Things won't be the same!

Oh, I get that shaky feeling when I hear those mortars  
"chime,"  
Those Viet Cong are breaking up that old gang of mine.

## I'VE STAYED TOO LONG

(Tune: I Wonder Why)

We don't need MAAG advisors  
We just take tranquilizers  
We've been here long enough to know.

We don't need supervisors  
We don't need fertilizers  
We just need to get away from here.

We've been down in the Delta  
Where we've sure had to swelta  
We just need to get away from here.

We can really hardly wait  
To get through that airport gate  
We're not chicken, we're just all through.

I hear VC, but there's no one there  
I find leaflets underneath my chair  
I've got hash marks on my underwear  
I've stayed too long, I've stayed too long.

I count hamlets in my dreams at night  
Too much nuouc mam's spoiled my appetite  
I'm just one great big mosquito bite  
I guess I've lost the fight  
I've stayed too long.

## LET'S DO IT

(Saigon Version 1964, end Jan)

Who did it? Dinh did it.  
Only others seem to think that Minh did it.  
Let's do it, let's have a coup.

The word is out General Khanh did it,  
(Wouldn't it be fun if Brother Can did it?)  
Let's do it, let's have a coup!

Marines from way up in Hue do it,  
No need for Nhus, they just ngo -  
Tanks, they tell us, too, do it -  
Tanks a lot from My tho.

They say that Kim did it,  
Don did it,  
Certain factions seem to feel that Dung done did it -  
Let's do it, let's have a coup.

## GHOST ADVISORS

(Sung with drums, eerie like - on the chorus)

Some Yanks went out advising down in Southern Vietnam  
While countering Ho's insurgency they encountered the Madame  
It was frequently confusing in the land where plastic flies  
Just which ones were the VC, and whom should they advise.

Chieu hoi! Chi Yi! (pronounced like by)  
Ghost advisors bye and bye.

They built strategic hamlets and they gave out USOM aid.  
They convinced the Montagnards that they really had it made.  
They defoliated jungles and they pulled up VC rice.  
They swatted the mosquitoes and they searched for body lice.

Chieu Hoi! Chi Yi!  
Ghost advisors bye and bye.

## SELF DEFENSE MAIDEN

Down by the River, The River Perfume  
That's where I met her, plotting their doom.  
Self Defense Maiden, that's what she was,  
Hating those VC, for killing her love.

As I approached her she turned and she said  
If they dare come here I'll shoot them all dead  
I am defending, the City of Hue, I am a member of the  
Nhan Dan Tu Ve  
Our forces are strong now, our cause it is right  
If they attack us we'll show them our might.

Many are helping, all firing carbines  
My brother's a member of an RDC Team  
My Mother's a Canh Sat, father is dead  
Shot by a commie, right square in the head.

We buried him sadly near Minh-Mang's Tomb  
His passing it greaves us, it left us in gloom  
This mission he left us, protect all that's dear  
Self Defense Forces without any fear.

Our forces are advancing and we've finished clearing Hue,  
The RF and the IF are showing us the way.  
Astounded we are sending up inspectors every day,  
The reports keep marching on.

Glory, glory we are winning, with TIES we are winning.  
Glory, glory we are winning, the reports keep marching on.

Say there's rockets in the cities and there's bombing in the hills.  
There's shooting in the paddies and there's banging in the villes.  
We fight awhile - count awhile, *etc, write awhile*  
The reports keep marching on.

Glory, glory we are winning, with the H - E - S we're winning.  
Glory, glory we are winning, the reports keep marching on.

The fighting's getting bloody and we Roman Flow the town,  
A sniper shoots a buddy and we blow the hamlet down.  
The refugees come streaming and we give them all some tin,  
The reports keep marching in.

Glory, glory we are winning, with a stencil we are winning.  
Glory, glory we are winning, the reports keep marching on.

A hamlet is regressing and we all leap to the fight,  
Saigon sends out a shipment and we issue day and night.  
Cement is hard, the tin is bent, but it will be all right,  
The reports keep marching in.

Glory, glory we are winning, with ginastres we are winning.  
Glory, glory we are winning, the reports keep marching on.

Komer sends a message that our figures are a fright,  
Komer sends a letter that we better see the light.  
Komer comes to visit and we sit up all the night,  
The reports keep rolling on.

Glory, glory we are winning, with computers we are winning.  
Glory, glory we are winning, the reports keep marching on.